Asian Gypsy Moth traps









You may notice many orange triangular boxes hanging on the trees around College Station and especially in the parks. These boxes are insect-monitoring traps set out by the Texas Department of Agriculture for trapping the Asian Gypsy Moth. The Asian Gypsy Moth is named for its home continent and is suspected to have entered the United States by way of cargo boats coming from Russia to the West Coast. This moth prefers forest habitats and, as a caterpillar, has a voracious appetite for over 500 species of trees and shrubs. If not controlled the Asian Gypsy Moth could cause great damage to our forests.

The traps are baited with a female Asian Gypsy Moth pheromone to attract the male moth. The male enters the trap and gets stuck to the sticky surface inside the trap. These traps are monitored regularly by the Texas Department of Agriculture and should not be disturbed. The Texas Department of Agriculture will remove the insect-monitoring traps in September.

